

The TRUE and ADMIRABLE

H I S T O R Y

OF THE

Marquis of *SALUS*,

A N D

Patient *GRISSEL*.



Newcastle upon Tyne: Printed in this present Year.





THE
HISTORY
OF
PATIENT GRISSEL.

CHAP. I.

How the Marquis of Salus was solicited by his Lords and Gentry to marry: He promises them he will: And how he falls in Love with the Daughter of Janicula, one of his Subjects, and a poor Countryman.

BETWEEN the Mountains of Italy and France, and towards the South, lies the Territory of Salus a Country flourishing with excellent Towns and noble Castles, and peopled with the best Sort Gentry and Peasants; and among whom there was not long since, a Nobleman of great Hope and Expectation, Lord of the Country, by Name

Gaultier, Marquis of Salus; to whom, as the Government appertained by Right of Inheritance, so their Obedience attended by Desert of his Worthiness. He was young in Years, noble of Lineage, and of such lovely a Behaviour, that the best thought it a Pleasure to be commanded by him and the worst grew more tractable by his good Example. His Delight was in Hunting and Hawking, and the Pleasure of the Time present extinguished the Care and Time to come: For he thought not of Marriage, nor to intangle himself with the Inconvenience of a Wife; till at last the Noblemen and People of his Country, contented to see him disposed that Way, and providing a Kind of Prosperity to themselves by his Marriage, assembled together upon a Day, to determine of their Resolutions, chusing one for the Speaker a noble Knight of great Authority, of Demeanour, eloquent Speech, and more inward with the Marquis than any of the Rest, to acquaint the noble Marquis with their Minds; who being prepared, took an Opportunity to acquaint the renowned Marquis with the Minds of his loved Subjects.

When the noble Lord had thus heard the Petition of his loving Subjects, he resolved to answer them as graciously as they had propounded Business with Regard of Duty.

When the Company had found him so willing to their Satisfaction, they gave him Thanks with one Heart for his kind Admission, and answered with one Tongue, that they would honour his Wife as the Princess of the World.

Thus did the Report, like a Messenger of glad Tidings, fill the Country with Joy, and the People with Delight, when they understood their Lord would marry, and in a Manner heard the Time appointed; for presently it was proclaimed through the Country, and a Day assigned for all and Comers to the Court. The Nobles prepared themselves in the best Manner; the Ladies spared no Cost, either to adorn their Bodies or display their Beauties; the Gentry, the Citizens, the Officers, and all Ranks of People gloried in the Hope of that Festival; the Marquis's Kindred were invited, Foreigners admitted, his own People entertained; but no Lady designed, no Maid publish'd, no Wife known, only the Preparation was much, and the Expectation greater.

All this While the noble Marquis continued his Hunting, and, as he had accustomed, resorted much to a poor County Village, not far from *Satus*, where there dwelt a poor Countryman, called *Janicula*, overworn in Years, and overcome with Distress. But as it happens many times, that inward Graces do moderate outward Discommodities, and that God seasoneth Poverty with Contentment and their sufficient Suppertation, so had this poor Man all his Defects supplied in the admirable Comfort of an only Daughter so composed as if Nature had determined a Work of Ostenation; for such was her Beauty and Virtue, not only in Appearance, but in Reality, that it put judicious Men to an Ecstasy in a Choice by Comparison: But both united, did here grace each other; and when they pretended an Action, it was all to go forward to Perfection,

tion; and whereas, in others this temporary Bleſſing gave Wings to Desire to be ſeen and knowne Abroad, in her theſe inſteate Virtues, allayed the Mag- Heat of all Manner of Paſſion, and breaking ouſe of Fraiſty. The Means they had were but ſmall, and the Diet they kept was to ſatisfy Nature. The Time was over-ruled by their Stomachs, and the Ceremonies they uſed were Thanks to God, and Moderation for their Repaſt. This was the Glory of their Poverty, and Memory of their Contentment.

But as Fire will not be hid where there is combustible Matter, ſo Virtue will not be obscured where there are Tongues and Ears; nor could the Marquis ſo hollow after his Hawks and Hounds, but the Report of this virtuous and faire Damsel hollowed in his Ear (as f. 1) this Wonder, in ſomuch that when it was confirmed by judicious Relation, he made it no Dainty to be be holding to his own Experience: Which when he saw concurring with ſome, the Maid brought a Kind of Astoniſhment, which continuing, the Properties of both Novelties increased to Medication; and in comparing the Reſt with this Rarity, he thought her a fit Woman to make his Wife; ſuppoſing that if ſhe was vicious by Nature, ſhe coak- not prove vicious by Education; but rather, as a Diamond is a ſtone of the ſame Value, whether ſet in Lead or Horn, it muſt needs be of more Excellency embellished with Gold and Enamel. In which Reſolution he prepared his Heart, and went forward with his Buſineſſ.

In the mean Time the Court was daintily furniſhed, the Plate prepared, the Apparel magniſcent,

lescent, the Coronet rich, the Jewels precious, the
Ornaments exceeding, and all Things befitting the
Magnificence of a Prince, and the Dignity of a
Queen. But the Nobles wondered, the Ladies
were amazed, the Damsels marvelled, the Gen-
tlemen disputed, the People flocked, and all Sorts
attended, to see who should possess his Wealth
and be adorned with these Robes. At last the
optial Day came indeed, and all looked for a
bride; but who she was, the following Chapter
must discover.

C H A P. II.

How after all this great Preparation, the noble Marquis of Salus demanded Griffel of her poor Father Janicula, and espousing her, made her Marchioness of Salus.

WHEN all Things were prepared for this glorious Show, the noble Marquis (as if he went to fetch his Wife indeed) took with him great Company of Earls, Lords, and Knights, Esquires, Gentlemen, Ladies, and Attendants, and went from his Palace into the Country towards Janicula's House; where the fair Maid, Griffel, knowing nothing of that which happen'd nor once dreaming of that which was to come, had made the House and herself somewhat handsome, determining (with the Rest of the neighbouring Virgins) to see this Solemnity.

At which Instant arrived the Marquis with all his gracious Company, meeting with Griffel as she

she was carrying two Pitchers of Water to her Father's House of whom, calling her by her Name, he asked where her Father was, she humbly answered, *In the House Gothen*, said he, *and tell him I would speak with him*. So the poor old Man (made the poorer to his Astonishment) came forth to him somewhat abashed, till the Marquis, taking him by the Hand, with an extraordinary Chearfulness, told him that he had a Secret to impart to him, and so sequestring him from the Company, spoke these Words:

“ *Janicula*, I know that thou always lovedest me, and am satisfied that thou dost not hate me now; you have been glad when I have been pleased, and will not now be sorrowful, if I be satisfied; nay, I am sure, if it lies in your Power, you will further my Delight, and not be contrary to my Request for I intend to beg your Daughter for my Wife, and be your Son-in Law, for your Advancement. What sayest thou, old Man? Will you accept me for a Friend, as I have appointed thee for a Father.”

The poor old Man was so astonished, that he could not look for Tears, nor speak a Word for joy; but when the Extasy had ended, he thus faintly replied:

“ *My gracious Sovereign,*

“ You are my Lord, and therefore I must accord to your Will, but you are generous, and therefore I presume on Virtue: Take her in God's Name, and make me a glad Father; and let that God which raiseth the Humble and

“ *Meek,*

“ Meek, make her a befitting Wife, and a fruit-
“ ful Mother.”

“ Well then (quoth the Marquis) let us enter
“ your House, for I must ask her a Question be-
“ fore you.”—So he went in, the Company tar-
rying without with great Astonishment. The fair
Maid was busied to make it as handsome as she
could, and proud again to have such a Guest un-
der her Roof, amazed at nothing but why he
should come so accompanied, and little expecting
so great a Blessing approaching; but at last the
Marquis took her by the Hand, and used these
Speeches:

“ To tell you this Blush becomes you, it were
“ but a Folly, and that your Modesty hath graced
“ your Comeliness, may prove the Deceit of
“ Words, and unbefitting my Greatness: But,
“ in a Word, your Father and I have agreed to
“ make you my Wife, and I hope you will not
“ disagree to take me for your Husband; for De-
“ lay shall not entangle you with Suspicion, nor
“ two Days longer protract the Kindness; only
“ I must be satisfied in this, if your Heart afford
“ a willing Entertainment to the Motion, and
“ your Virtue a constancy to this Resolution:
“ Not to rep'ne at my Displeasure in any Thing,
“ nor presume on Contradiction when I am de-
“ termined to command: For as good Soldiers
“ must simply obey, without disputing the Bas-
“ ness, so must virtuous Wives consent without
“ a Reproof, or the least Contradiction of a Brow;
“ therefore be advised how you answer; and I
“ charge you to take Heed, that the Tongue ut-
“ ter no more than the Heart coaceives.”

All

All this While was *Griffel* wondering at the Miracle, had not Religion told her, that nothing was impossible to the Commander of all Things, which reduced her to a better Consideration, and this brought forth an Answer.

" *My gracious Sovereign,*
 " I am not ignorant of your Greatness, and
 " know my own Baseness; there is no Worth
 " in me to be your Servant, therefore there can
 " be no Desert to be your Wife. Notwithstanding
 " because God will be the Author of miracu-
 " lous Accidents, I yield to your Pleasure, and
 " praise him for the Fortune: Only, this I will
 " be bold to say, that your Will shall be my De-
 " light, and Death shall be more Welcome unto
 " me, than a Word of Displeasure against you."

After this the Ladies adorned poor *Griffel* with Robes befitting her Estate, the Marquis and all the noble Company returning to *Salus*, and in the Cathedral Church, in Sight of the People, accord-
 in to the Fulness of religious Ceremonies, they were espoused together, and with great Solemnity returned to the Palace.

C H A P. III.

*How the Lady Griffel was proved by her Husband
 who thus made Trial of her Patience.*

TO other Blessings, in Process of Time, there was added the Birth of a sweet Infant Daugh-
 ter, that rejoiced the Mother, and gladded the Fa-
 ther

ther: The Country triumphed, and the People clapped their Hands for Joy: For the Marquis still loved her more and more, and they thought their Lives not dear for her, if Occasion served. Notwithstanding all this, Fortune has still a Trick to check the Pride of Life, and Prosperity must be seasoned with some Crosses, or else it would taint and corrupt us too much.

Whereupon the Marquis determined now to prove his Wife, and make Trial of her Virtues indeed, and so taking a convenient season, after the Child was fully weaned, he one Day repaired secretly to her Chamber, and (seeming Half angry) thus imparted his Mind,

“ Altho’ Grifel, Fortune hath raised you in
 “ the World, and blotted out the Remembrance
 “ of your mean Birth, yet it is not so with me
 “ nor my Nobles, for they have taken a Disgust
 “ at you, and are determined never to suffer any
 “ of your P^tterity to rule over them; therefore
 “ to prevent Discontent, and preserve Peace, I
 “ must submit to them, and take away your
 “ Daughter from you, in order to keep their
 “ Friendship.”

The Lady hearing this sorrowful Preamble, and apprehending the Marquis’s Resolution, to her Grief (tho’ every Word might have been as Arrows in her Sides) yet admitted of the Temptation; disputing with herself to what End Patience, Modesty, Forbearance, Fortitude, and Magnanimity were ordained, if they had not Subjects to work upon, and Objects to look after.

When

When the Marquis saw her Constancy, he was much pleased, but said no more at that Time, for his Heart was full, and between Joy and Fear he departed; Joy, that so great a Virtue had the In-crease of Goodneis: Fear, because he had presumed so far on such a Trial; but resolved in his Business, he went to put it to the Adventure.



C H A P. IV.

The Marquis sent for his Daughter, and privately disposed of her to his Sister, the Duchess of Bologna de Grace, who brought her up in all Things befitting the Child of so great a Person.

NOT long after this sad Conference between the Marquis and his Lady, he called a faithful Servant unto him, to whom he imparted this Secret, and with several Instructions what he truly meant to do with the Child, and then sent him to his Wife to demand the Child.

When she had received the Message, rememb'ring the Conference the Marquis had with her, and apprehending there was no disputing in a Master not to be remedied, especially with a Messenger, she concluded it was ordered to die, and altho' she was now (as it were) to commit it to a Slaughter-house, whereby any Woman in the World might with good becoming have burst into some Passion, and well enough shewed a distract-ed Extasy, yet recollecting her Spirits, and re-claiming

claiming those Motives of Nature already striv-
ing in her Bowels, she took the Child in her Arms,
and with a Mother's Blessing, and sweetned Kisses,
the Countenance somewhat sad, and the Gesture
without any violent Execution, delivered it to the
Messenger, nor once amazed or distempered in her
Mind, because her Lord would have it so, and she
knew not how to have it otherwise, only she said,
I must, my Friend, intreat one Thing at your
Hands, that out of Humanity and Christian Ob-
servation, you leave not the Body to be devoured
of Beasts and Birds, for it was worthy a Grave
in her Innocency; and Christian Burial, tho' she
were but my Daughter alone.

The Messenger having received the Child, durst
not tarry, for Fear of relenting, such Impression
had her Words made upon him, but returned with
it to his Master, not leaving out the least Circum-
stance of her Answer, nor any Thing that might
enlarge her Renown and Constancy.

The Marquis considering the great Virtue of his
Wife, and looking on the Beauty of his Daughter,
began to enter into a kind of Compassion, and to
retract his Wilfulness; but, at last resolved to
pursue what he had begun: Accordingly he sent
the Child away, with the utmost Secrecy, to his
Sister the Countess of Bologna, with Presents of
Worth, and Letters of Gratification, containing
in them the Nature of the Business, and the Man-
ner of bringing her up, which she accordingly put
in Practice.

C H A P. V.

The Marquis, resolute to prove his Wife farrer, sendeth for his Son, and disposeth of him as he had done of his Daughter.

ABOUT four Years after, she was delivered of a Son, to the great Joy of the whole Country; but the Marquis took Occasion once again to inflict upon this virtuous Griffel a new Punishment, erecting his Building upon the old Foundation. As this patient and wonderful Lady was one Day sporting with her Infant, like an untimely Tempest, spoiling the beauty of some new-rooted Plants, did this Messenger of Death interpose himself between the Recreation, making the hollow Demand of her Son, worse than the Noise of a Screech Owl over a sick Man's Bed, yet (as if there were a Conscience disquieting her Greatness, or if you will, her Goodness) he came forward with Preambles and apologies, insinuating, with craving Pardon, the Authority of a Lord, the Duty of a Servant, the Terror of Death, the Circumstance of Obedience, and all other Enforcements which might either excuse a Messenger, or make the Messuage itself without Blame. What shall I enlarge Discourse of Terror? It is a Courtesy to conclude a Mischief with Quickness. He was not so quick in his Demand, as she was ready in his Dispatch; for she presently blessed the Child, kissed it, adorned it, and delivered it to the Executioner, only with the same Enforcement she pleaded as she had spoke of in

Be-

Behalf of her Daughter, not to see it perish for want of a Burial, nor suffer it to be devoured for want of a Grave.

In this Manner, and with this Report, the Messenger returned to his Lord, who had still more Cause of Amazement, and less Reason to trouble such a Creature, had not his Wilfulness put him forward to make an End of his Business, and taught him still further to the trying of his Gold in the Fire. But, for the Time, he sent likewise this Child to his Sister the Duchess of *Bologna*, who understanding her Brother's Mind, brought up these Children in such a Fashion, that tho' no Man knew whose Children they were, yet they imagined whose they might be, that is, the Son and Daughter of some Prince or other Potentate, willing to have his Children brought up to the best Purpose, and befitting their Birth and Honour.

The ordering of this Business in this Sort, made the Marquis once again settle himself in *Salus*, where he kept open House to all Comers, and was proud of nothing so much as the Honour of his Wife, and the Love of his People; for altho' he had thus tried her Patience and Constancy, giving her more than sufficient Cause of Anger and Perturbation, yet could not find Fault of the Demonstrations of Offence, but still she loved him more, and was so servingly dutiful, and cautious of Displeasure, that many Times he grew enamour'd of that he might command, and seemed passionate in the Distraction of Over joy. Nor could the length of Time make his Love wearisome, for all they had lived thus a Dozen of Years together: Only she got the Hand of him in

in the Opinion of the People, who by this Time D
began to whisper against his Unkindness, that had sol
married so virtuous a Woman, and bereaved her and
of two Children, so that if they were slain it was Fa
a Murder, if otherwise, it was Unkindness; for
tho' she was poor Janicula's Daughter by Birth,
yet she might come from Heaven for her Virtue,
and was sure to go thither for her Piety.

Notwithstanding these Breakings out, which
came often to the Ears of his Honour, such was
her Moderation, and his Government, that they
only whispered the same in her Behalf, and con-
tentethemselves with Expectation of future Good,
as they had the Fruition of future Happiness, not
meddling with the same farther than in the Com-
miseration of her, and still acknowledging their
Duty to him; so that altho' he knew she might
this Way understand his former Reasons of taking
away her Children, that it was but a Device,
and that there were some other Motives which
procured his Unkindness; yet was he still obsti-
nate to exercise her Patience, and Conceit beat
out another Plot of Offence, on the Anvil of a
loving yet most hardened Heart.

CHAP. VI.

*How Patient Grissel was disrobed of her Apparel,
and restored all that she had (except one poor
Smock) to the Marquis.*

AFTER this the Marquis being resolved to
shew the last Act of her Trial, took one
Day

Time Day an Opportunity to acquaint her with a Re-
had solution he had taken of marrying another Wife,
her and at the same Time desires her to retire to her
was Father's Cottage, till she heard farther from him.
for To all which she chearfully submitted, wishing
irth, him and his new Spouse many Years of Joy; then
tue, she stript herself of all the rich Jewels, Cloaths,
which &c. which she had got from the Marquis, only
was desiring a Smock to return Home in which was
they accordingly given her.

The whole Court could not refrain weeping,
on- and imploring the Alteration of Fortune; she
ood, could not chuse but smile, that her Virtue was
not predominant over her Passion. They did exclaim
Din- against the Cruelty of her Lord; she disclaimed
heir the least Invective against him. They wondered
ight at her so great Virtue and Patience; she told them
ng that they were exercises befitting a modest Wo-
ice, man. They followed her with a true Love and
rich hearty Desire to do her Service: she thanked them
Sti- with a sincere Heart, and requested them to desist
eat from deploring her State.

By this Time they approached her old Habita-
tion, and the poor old Man Janicula, hearing the
Noise, came out to see what was the Matter;
and finding it was his Daughter in her Smock,
and in so honourable Company, bemoaning her
Distress, he quickly left them all without speak-
ing to any of them, and ran in for those poor
Robes which were formerly left in the House,
with which he quickly arrayed her, and told her
before them all, that now she was in her right
Element, and kissing her, bid her welcome. The
Company was as much astonished at his Mode-
B ration,

ration, as at her Constancy, wondering how Nature could be restrained from Passion, and that any Woman could be posseſſ'd of so much Patience: In which Amaze, not without some Reprehension of Fortune and their Lord's Cruelty, they left her to the Cruelty of the Cell, and returned themselves to the Glory of the Palace, where they recounted to the Marquis the Strange-ness of the Busines, and the Manner of the Accident, and how she continued in her first Moderation, and indefatigable Patience; the poor Father only laughing to Scorn the Miseries and sudden Mutability of Human Condition, and comforting his Daughter in her well-begun Courses of Modesty and Reposedness.

Not long after approached the Duchess of *Bologna*, with her beautiful Pupil, and a glorious Company attending her: She had before sent Word of her Company, and the Marquis had ordered a Troop of Nobility to welcome her to the Court, which was richly fitted up for her Reception. The Report of which had not so equal a Passage, but divers contrary Opinions thus handed themselves: Some absolutely condemned the Inconstancy of the Lord, others deplored the Misfortune of the Lady; some repined to see a Man so cruel against so much Worthiness; others exemplified her Graces to all Eternity: Some were transported with the gallant Youth, and Comeliness of this her beautiful Virgin; other presumed to parallel the fair *Griffel*, but that she had stepped a little before her in Years; some haſped on her great Nobility and high Lineage; others ecompassed the former Wite's Virtue and Wisdom; some excused their Lord on Account of his Love

to his Country; others excused the Lady by the Nature of her Adversity, until the Approach of the fair Virgin, and the young Nobleman in her Company, extinguished all former Conceits, and set them to a new Work, concerning this Spectacle, wherein the young Lady and her brave Brother had such Pre-eminence: Nor knew the Duke of *Bologna* himself, nor any of the Company, on either Side, that they were the Marquis's Children by *Griffel*, but merely Strangers and designed for his new Marriage: So the Marquis made good Semblance, and with his accustomed Comeliness welcomed them all to the Palace.

The very next Morning after *Griffel* had been conduct d Home to her Father's Houle, the Marquis sent a Messenger to her, ordering her to come to him in the same Manner as she was; who protracted no lime, but presently attended her Lord: At her Approach he was somewhat appeased, but yet setting, as we say, the best Foot forward, he thus proceeded.

“ The Lady with whom I am going to marry, “ will be here Fo-morrow by this Time, and the “ Feast is prepared acco:dingly: Now, because “ there is none so well acquainted with the Se-“ crets of my Palace and Disposition of myself as “ you, I would have you, notwithstanding your “ mean Attire, address your Wisdom to the or-“ dering of the Busines. appointing such Officers “ as is befitting and disposing of the Rooms, ac-“ cording ro the Degree and Estate of the Persons. “ Let the Lady have the Privilege of the Marriage-“ chamber, and the young Lord the Pleasure of “ the Gallery; let the rest be lodged in the Courts, “ and

“ and the better Sorts upon the Sides of the Gar-
 “ den. Let the Wines be plentiful, and the Ce-
 “ remonies maintained; let the Shadows be sump-
 “ tuous, and the Pastimes as becometh. In a
 “ Word, let nothing be wanting which may set
 “ forth my Honour, and delight my People.”

She answered him: “ My Lord, I ever told you
 “ I took Pleasure in nothing but your Content-
 “ ment, and whatsoever might confirm it to your
 “ Delight, therein consisted my Joy and Happy-
 “ ness; therefore make no Question of my Dili-
 “ gence and Duty in this or any other Thing
 “ which it may please you to impose upon me.”

So like a poor Servant, she presently set herself about the Business of the House, performing all Things with such a Quickness of Grace, that each one wondered at her Goodness and fair Demeanour and many murmur'd to see her put to such a Trial.

But the Day of Entertainment is now to come, and when the fair Lady approached, her very Presence had almost extinguished the Impression of Griffel's Worthiness, for some unconstant Humourists gave Way to the Alteration, not blaming the Marquis for such a Change; but when the Strangers were made acquainted with the Fortune of Griffel, and saw her fair Demeanour, they could not but esteem her a Woman of great Virtue and Honour, being more amazed at her Patience than at the Mutability of Man's Condition, till at last she approached the Lady, and taking her by the Hand, used this Speech:

“ Lady,

“ Lady, if it were not his Pleasure, that in a command, to bid you welcome, yet methinks there is a kind of over-ruling Grace from Nature in you, that must exert Respect unto you. “ And as for you, young Lord, I can say no more; but if I could have my Desires satisfied in this World, they should be employed to wish you well, and to endeavour all Things for your Entertainment indeed. To the Rest I afford what is fitting, desiring that if any Deficiency abate their Expectation, they would impute it either to my Ignorance or Negligence; for it is the Pleasure of him in whose Will is all my Pleasure, that in all Sufficiency you should have Regard and Suppliment.”

Then she conducted them to their several Chambers, where they repos'd themselves a While, till the Time of Dinner invited them to a Repast. When all Things were prepared, and the Solemnity of placing the Guests finished, the Marquis sent for *Griffel*, and standing on his Feet, took her by the Hand before them all, erecting his Body, and elevating his Voice in this Manner:

“ You see the Lady is here I mean to marry, and the Company gloriously prepared to witness the same: Are you therefore thus contented that I should dispose of myself, and do you quietly yield to the Alteration?”

“ My Lord, replied she, before them all, wherein as a Woman I might be faulty, I will not now Dispute; but because I am your Wife, and have devoted myself to Obedience, I am resolv'd “ to

“ to delight myself in nothing but your Pleasure;
 “ so that if this Match be designed for your Good,
 “ and determined by your Appointment. I am
 “ much satisfied, and more than much contented:
 “ And for your Lady, I wish her the Delights of
 “ your Marriage, and the Honour of her Hus-
 “ band, many Years of Happiness, and the Fruits
 “ of a chaste Wedlock. Only, gracious Lord,
 “ take Heed of one Thing, that you try not this
 “ new Bride as you have done your old Wife;
 “ for she is young, and so may want of that Pa-
 “ tience and Government, which I, poor I, have
 “ endured, and Peradventure of another Strain.”

Till this he held out bravely, but Nature over-
 coming his Resolution, and considering with what
 strange Variety his Unkindness had passed, he
 could not answer a Word for Tears, and all the
 Company stood confounded at the Matter won-
 dering what would be the End of the Business,
 and the Success of this Extasy. But to draw them
 out of their Doubts, the next Chapter shall deter-
 mine the Controversy.



CHAP. VII.

*The Oration of the Marquis to his Wife, and the
 Discovery of her Children, to her great Joy, and
 the Contentment of the whole Company.*

AFTER a little Reducement of his Passion
 at that Time, and farther Mediation had dis-
 posed his Senses to their perfect State, the Mar-
 quis graciously answered.

“ Thou

"Thou Wonder of Women, and Champion
 "of true Virtue, I am ashamed of my Imperfec-
 "tions, and tired with abusing thee. I have tried
 "thee beyond Reason, and thou hast forborn me
 "beyond Modesty: Believe me, therefore, I will
 "not have a Wite but thyself; and when God
 "hath thought thee too good for the Earth, I
 "will (if it be not too much Superstition) pray
 "to thee in Heaven. Oh! it is a Pleasure to be
 "acquainted with thy Worth, and to come near
 "thy Goodness, maketh a Man better than him-
 "self; for, without Controversy, except thou hadst
 "been sent for from above, thou couldst never
 "have acted a Gocdel's Part below: And there-
 "fore seeing I have used thee so unkindly, I pro-
 "mise never to disquiet thee hereafter; and where-
 "in my Cruelty extended against thee, in bereav-
 "ing thee of thy Children, my Love shall ever
 "make Amends in restoring thee thy Daughter;
 "for this my new Bride is she, and this Wanton
 "her Brother. I thank this great Lady, my Sister,
 "for their bringing up, and this Man (you know
 "him well enough) for his Secrecy: Be not a-
 "mazed at the Matter. I have related the Truth,
 "and will confirm it on my Honour; only sit
 "down till the Dinner is come, and bid the Com-
 "pany welcome in this poor Attire: For the Sun
 "will break through slender Clouds, and Virtue
 "shine in base Array. I could much dilate the
 "Matter, but it is Time to end, lest the Circum-
 "stances never end."

This Device of the Marquis, of kissing her so
 lovingly, and setting her down by him so discreet-
 ly, did much Good; for the Company had Time
 to

to dispute of the Miracle, and the young Lady Reason to prepare her Obedience, which no sooner was the Dinner ended but she as soon performed Nothing thought upon but Joy at the Matter and the Wonder of the Accident; every one pleased to see such a Unity of Goodness, and all delighted to have a Business so well concluded: But seeing Time had unclosed a Book of such Jollity, there was now no farther disputing. for the Ladies flocked about to attend her into the Chamber, where the young Princess her Daughter was as ready as the best to apparel her; so that when she came amongst them again, she shin'd like the Sun after a Tempest, and seem'd more glorious because her continued Modesty kept her from all insulting and vain-glorious Bravery.

Thus was the Marquis invested, as it were, with new blessedness, and continued in her old Constancy. on admired and reverenced for her Worth, as he was esteemed and regarded for his Wisdom, the Nobles applying themselves to renown his State, and the People proud that had such a Lord to obey, especially satisfied when the poor *Janicula* was advanced to his Council, and made Governor of his Palace; wherein he behaved himself so discreetly during his Life, that he died with the Memory of a good Report *Griffel* lived thirty Years after him, and all went to their Graves in good Time, the Country renowned over the World for good Government, and famous for their extraordinary Wonders.

10 JU 52

F I N I S.